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16th June, 1959.

COCOM Document No. 3573B

COORDINATING COMMITTEE

RECORD OF DISCUSSION

ON

PROPOSED FRENCH SALE OF NATURAL URANIUM AND NUCLEAR GRAPHITE TO POLAND

12th June, 1959.

Present: Belgium(Luxembourg), Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan;
Netherlands, United Kingdom, United States.

References: COCOM Documents 3395, 3447, 3448 and 3555.

1. The CHAIRMAN reminded the Committee that they had decided to hear the Delegations of each member country confirm today that their authorities had not authorised the export to Poland of natural uranium or nuclear graphite.
2. The Chairman stated that the DANISH Delegate, who could not attend the meeting, had asked him to confirm to the Committee that the Danish authorities had never authorised such an export and had never had any knowledge of a project of this nature.
3. The JAPANESE Delegate said that he had been instructed to say that his country had never received any enquiry from Poland to import atomic grade graphite. In that connection, he wished to inform the Committee that the production of atomic grade graphite in Japan had just passed the experimental stage and a very small amount of it had been sent to the United States and the United Kingdom exclusively for the purpose of testing. However, Japan had never had any commercial transactions with other countries in nuclear graphite.
4. The ITALIAN Delegate stated that no export request involving these products had ever been brought to the notice of his authorities.
5. The GERMAN Delegate stated that his authorities had issued no export licences for such products and had received no applications of this type. As far as they were aware, no German firm had been approached by the Polish authorities for the supply of natural uranium or nuclear graphite.
6. The BELGIAN Delegate stated that the Belgian authorities had never authorised such exports and had never received corresponding applications.
7. The UNITED STATES Delegate stated that his authorities had never exported such products to Poland, had never received similar requests and had never been approached by the Polish authorities for the supply of such products.
8. The NETHERLANDS Delegate made a statement which was identical with that of his colleagues.
9. The CANADIAN Delegate said that he had not yet received his Government's instructions.

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10. The UNITED KINGDOM Delegate stated that his authorities had not received any application involving the export of the items concerned and had not issued any licence for such exports. The United Kingdom authorities considered that either the Polish nuclear reactor had been started with the aid of graphite supplied by the Soviet Union or else that it was not yet working.

11. The FRENCH Delegate thanked the Committee for replying so rapidly to the question put by his authorities. He stated that the replies just given satisfied his Delegation, who now considered the question settled.

12. The CHAIRMAN stated that he did not wish to close this consultation without emphasising that on this occasion the Committee had given a fresh proof of the possibility of frank and open cooperation between member countries, over and above the letter of its procedures. He congratulated all Delegations for having unhesitatingly contributed to dissolving the atmosphere of doubt created by Polish-inspired information: he also thanked the French Delegate for bringing this information to the Committee's notice.

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